



SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE RURAL DISTRICT

IN THE
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE
AND THE ISLE OF ELY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Including the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

for

1967

P. K. SYLVESTER, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.C.H., D.(Obst.), R.C.O.G.

Medical Officer of Health,
South Cambridgeshire Rural District Council,
Shire Hall,
Cambridge.

Tel. No.: Cambridge 58811

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GENERAL STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area of the District	111,614 acres
Number of Parishes	.. .. .	49
Rateable Value 1/4/68	.. .. .	£1,084,233
Sum represented by a penny rate at 31/3/68	.. .. .	£4,351 19s. 2d.
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book	.. .. .	12,104
Estimated mid-year Home Population	.. .. .	35,020
Census Population 1961	.. .. .	29,327

The district is one of six rural districts in the County and is the second largest in population and acreage. It stretches some 28 miles across the Southern end of the County and forms a common boundary with parts of the Counties of Huntington and Peterborough, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Essex and Suffolk. Geologically, the area differs from the chalk hills to the South and East to the clay and lower greensand outcrop in the West, and in the main it supports arable farming.

There is some industrial development of a divergent nature and this is increasing. The manufacture of paper, leather, agricultural equipment, cement, synthetic adhesives, concrete castings, asbestos cement products and research into metals and plastics are but a few of the industries.

Birth Rate	18.5
(Corrected)	18.5
Death Rate	8.6
(Corrected)	8.3
Infant Mortality Rate	10.8
(Per thousand live births)	

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: Councillor C. Hagger

Vice-Chairman: Councillor Mrs. G. B. Parkinson

Councillors:

Andrews, H. B., M.B.E., J.P.	Jackson, R. C.
Barnes, A.	Jenner, Mrs. M. E. F.
Bowen, Mrs. G., M.B.E. (Deceased 1st May 1967)	Kay, J. C. (To May 1967)
Bowen, Miss M. A.	Keen, M. C. (To May 1967)
Brown, J. J.	Matthews, L.
Bullman, E. W., J.P.	Morgan, Mrs. S. L.
Cartwright, A. B.	Morley, E. W.
Chamberlain, J. J. (From May 1967)	Murfit, F. W., J.P.
Chambers, F.	Nield, R. H.
Clark, J. W.	Noble, J. W.
Cornish, W. A. (From May 1967)	Pearson, W. H.
Davies, H.	Pedley, V. A.
Dyball, Miss M. F. L.	Pepper, Mrs. M.
Dyball, E. F.	Playle, A. S.
Gough, E. G. (From May 1967)	Randall, P.
Gray, Miss L. M.	Samworth, E.
Harvey, S. G.	Vinter, Mrs. M. M. K.
Haynes, J. W.	Welch, C.
Horsford, F. W.	

STAFF

P. K. Sylvester, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.C.H.,
D.(OBST.), R.C.O.G.
R. J. Hoyle, M.R.S.H.
P. Cocks.
P. G. Allston.
P. A. Burnett.
J. Knight.
W. Duncan.
N. J. K. Low.
Mrs. C. M. Pilmer.
Miss C. A. Chapman.

Medical Officer of Health:

Chief Public Health Inspector:

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

Student Public Health Inspector:

Meat Inspectors:

Clerical Staff:

ANNUAL REPORT 1967

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

To the Chairman and Members
of the
South Cambridgeshire Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1967, prepared in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 1/1968, dated January, 1968.

Vital Statistics

The estimated population increase for the year—1,210—meant that the recent annual rate of increase was maintained. The birth rate (18.5), though again slightly lower than recent figures, was above the average for England and Wales. The death rate, at 8.6 per thousand estimated population, is well below the average trend for the district over the past ten years and is the lowest death rate (uncorrected) ever recorded for this district. Deaths from all forms of cancer showed a decrease on the figures for the last two years, being 15 fewer than for 1966 and 19 fewer than for 1965. The deaths from lung cancer (13 male, 2 female) showed a slight overall increase on the figures for 1966 (10 male, 3 female), but were one fewer than those occurring in 1965 (which were all male). Deaths attributed to coronary artery disease were lower for 1967 (53) than for 1966 (70) and 1965 (71).

The infant mortality rate was considerably lower than the rates for 1965/6, a fact which also virtually obtains for the neonatal mortality rate (infant deaths within the first four weeks of life per thousand live births). The perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per thousand live and stillbirths) showed a rise due to the increase in the stillbirth rate for the district. However, the similar rates for the Administrative County as a whole show a decrease on the previous year's rates; nevertheless this "local" rise in the stillbirth rate has been noted and its future trend will be closely examined.

Infectious Diseases

The number of cases of measles notified in 1967 showed the expected increase on the 1966 figures, whilst the number of notifications for scarlet fever and whooping cough were both very slightly lower than those for the previous year. I am pleased to say that the number of cases of sonne dysentery notified within the district during the year was much lower than in 1966; the usual investigations and methods of control were carried out in every case that came to our notice.

Eight cases of salmonella-type food poisoning were notified to us and one was brought to our notice through other channels. Eight of these cases were due to salmonella typhi-murium and one to salmonella enteritidis. Four of the cases of salmonella typhi-murium occurred in one family which had consumed duck eggs (from their own ducks) in various forms (fried, boiled, and as omelettes) on no less than three occasions during the 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms; subsequently salmonella-typhimurium of the same phage type was isolated from a duck egg which was later submitted for bacteriological examination. The case of salmonella enteritidis was a young lady who became infected whilst she was on holiday in Turkey. Advantage was taken of the postal despatch of the rate demands and council house rent books in the late spring of 1967 to distribute at the same time, to all householders and council house tenants within the district, the Central Council for Health Education's pamphlet on food hygiene, published on behalf of the Ministry of Health, and entitled "10 Point Codes for Housewives".

In contrast to 1966, only two cases of Infective Hepatitis were notified. Four new cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified and the number of cases on the register at the end of the year remained the same as for 1966.

Environmental Circumstances

76 bungalows and flats and 22 houses were erected by the Council in 1967, the emphasis being placed on the construction of smaller units in order to free more of the underoccupied council houses for larger and younger families. The Council are also increasing their provision of grouped accommodation with resident warden for the elderly and at the time of writing a new unit has been occupied at Linton, another is nearing completion at Bassingbourn, and yet another is under construction at Sawston.

The Chief Public Health Inspector mentions in his report that the general demand for caravan sites in this district appears to be slackening. Much discussion took place during the year between the officers of the County Council and County District concerning the need to provide caravan sites for gypsies but it was felt that the problem was not acute in this district, though the position is being kept under review. Twelve families were rehoused from caravans during 1967.

Despite the County Council's decision in principle to carry out fluoridation of the public water supplies, this has not yet been implemented for economic and administrative reasons. Following a certain amount of publicity in the medical press, Medical Officers of Health and Water Undertakings received communications concerning the levels of lead in drinking water from the Ministries of Health and Housing and Local Government respectively. Following investigations by the Cambridge Water Company and this department, the situation concerning lead levels in both public and private drinking water supplies within this district was considered to be satisfactory. In his report, the Chief Public Health Inspector refers to the desirability of periodic cleansing and chlorination of storage tanks and pipelines carrying private water supplies.

The department has continued to visit and check on the chlorination levels at the ever increasing number of school swimming pools within the area. It is gratifying to report that the chlorine residual levels were found to be satisfactory at all the 62 visits paid to these swimming pools.

Despite the somewhat inevitable slowing up of the sewerage programme due to the national financial situation, progress continues to be made in this direction. Construction continues on the schemes for Steeple and Guilden-Morden, Foxton and Shepreth, and it is hoped that the schemes for Hinxton, Ickleton, Orwell and Barrington will soon follow. Approval by the Ministry has been given to proceed with the Tadlow scheme, which is the first one in this district where it is proposed to use extended aeration sewage treatment. At the time of writing, tenders have been obtained for the extension to the Melbourn sewage works and tender documents are being prepared for the Hildersham/Abington scheme. Recently much thought has been given to possible means of dealing with the increasing problem of sewage sludge disposal.

The same frequency of kerbside refuse collection continues to operate throughout the district, financial restrictions having precluded any further extension of this service. The paper sack system is in use at grouped accommodation for the elderly. In common with many other local authorities, refuse disposal is becoming an increasing problem and the time must soon come for employing methods such as pulverisation, perhaps in collaboration with other authorities, in order to reduce the bulk of the refuse that we are now required to collect. The Civic Amenities Act 1967 has also added to the difficulties of refuse disposal though abandoned vehicles can usually be disposed of by arrangement with a reputable metal scrap-dealer.

The department continued to advise on new furnace installations under the Clean Air Act, to investigate and take any necessary action over noise nuisances, and to co-operate with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in occasionally receiving low level radioactive waste in the refuse tips from two firms situated within the district.

Contraventions found during inspections in connection with the Offices, Shops, and Railway Premises Act were duly pointed out and the necessary works are generally in hand.

The department kept up its inspections of premises under the Food and Drugs Act and, at the same time, considerably increased its inspection of food conveying vehicles in order to implement the Food Hygiene (Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966 which came into force at the beginning of 1967. Attention is drawn to the fact that your public health inspectors also made a pilot check to see if the particular type of bottle optic, associated with excessive lead being found in fruit drinks, was being used in this district; no optic of this type was found to be in use. 1967 was also the first year in which 100% meat inspection was achieved. At the same time it should be noted that the year's kill was 16% greater than that of the previous year.

Once again I wish to record my thanks to Mr. Hoyle and all the members of the Public Health Department for the cheerful and efficient way in which they have undertaken all that has been asked of them. My thanks are also due to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee who have always shown a keen interest in our work and have given us much support throughout the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

PETER SYLVESTER.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

(The mid-year home population is used for the statistical calculations)

LIVE BIRTHS								Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	310	303	613
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21	15	36
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	331	318	649
Birth rate per thousand estimated population	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18.5
Birth rate corrected by comparability factor (1.00)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18.5
Birth rate per thousand population (England and Wales)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17.2
STILL BIRTHS								Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	10	13
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	10	14
Rate per thousand live and still births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21.1
Rate per thousand live and still births (England and Wales)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.8
DEATHS								Male	Female	Total
								140	160	300
Death rate per thousand estimated population	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8.6
Death rate corrected by comparability factor (0.96)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8.3
Death rate per thousand population (England and Wales)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.2
INFANT MORTALITY. (Deaths of infants under one year of age.)								Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 (3)	3 (3)	7 (6)
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 (3)	3 (3)	7 (6)
(Deaths of infants under four weeks of age are shown in brackets.)										
Infant mortality rate. (Infant deaths under one year per thousand live births)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10.8
Infant mortality rate. (England and Wales)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18.3
Neonatal mortality rate. (Infant deaths under four weeks per thousand live births)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9.2
Early neonatal mortality rate. (Infant deaths under one week per thousand live births)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9.2
Perinatal mortality rate. (Stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per thousand live and still births)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30.2
Legitimate infant mortality rate per thousand legitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.4
Illegitimate infant mortality rate per thousand illegitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5.6%
Maternal deaths (deaths ascribed to pregnancy, childbirth and abortion)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per thousand live and still births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Deaths from cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	56
Deaths from tuberculosis (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Coronary Disease, Angina	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	53 (70)*

* 1966 figures in brackets

CERTAIN COMPARATIVE RATES

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
* Birth Rate	18.0	18.0	18.1	19.9	16.5	17.8	17.9	20.6	20.1	18.9	18.5
* Death Rate	11.3	11.4	12.0	11.6	11.8	12.2	12.2	10.6	12.1	10.1	8.6
Infant Mortality Rate	21.7 (11)	19.5 (10)	9.8 (5)	12.3 (7)	28.4 (14)	9.4 (5)	21.9 (12)	7.8 (5)	19.8 (13)	18.8 (12)	10.8 (7)

* The above rates are uncorrected. The figures in brackets are the number of infant deaths in each year.

TABLE CLASSIFYING DEATHS UNDER AGE GROUPS

								Male	Female	Total
Under 4 weeks	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	6
4 weeks and under 1 year	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
1 and under 5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
5 and under 15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
15 and under 25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	5	8
25 and under 35	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	—	4
35 and under 45	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	4
45 and under 55	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	10	21
55 and under 65	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29	9	38
65 and under 75	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38	36	74
75 and over	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	48	94	142
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	140	160	300

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICE FOR THE AREA

Medical Officer of Health

“The Cambridgeshire United Districts (Medical Officer of Health) Order, 1951” provided for the appointment of a medical officer of health to the Chesterton, Newmarket and South Cambridgeshire Rural District Councils. As from 1st April, 1965, this officer was also appointed deputy county medical officer to the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely County Council.

Public Health Inspectors

Mr. R. J. Hoyle continued as Chief Public Health Inspector during the year and was assisted by Mr. Cocks and Mr. Allston. Mr. Steel left us to go to Downham Market R.D.C. in May 1967, and Mr. Burnett joined us in August. There are also two Meat Inspectors attached to the department.

Laboratory Facilities

Chemical and bacteriological examinations of water are made by the Public Analyst at Cambridge. The Public Health Laboratory, Cambridge, undertake bacteriological and biological examinations of milk and bacteriological examinations of water supplies, and all necessary examination in cases of infectious disease.

Hospitals

There are no General Hospitals situated in the area. Cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment are sent to the Cambridge City Isolation Hospital. The old Poor Law Institution at Linton is now shared between the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board, and the Cambridgeshire County Council; the former having the use of 78 beds for the chronic sick, the latter 92 beds for use under Part III of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (INFECTIOUS DISEASE) REGULATIONS, 1953

No notices were issued under Section 41 of the Public Health Act, 1961.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1967

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN AGE GROUPS, 1967

Age in years	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic Non-Paralytic	Measles	Dysentery	Meningococcal Infection	Totals
Under 1 year	—	4	—	19	—	—	23
1 year—	—	3	—	65	1	—	69
2 years—	1	4	—	100	—	—	105
3 years—	2	6	—	125	—	—	133
4 years—	2	3	—	102	1	—	108
5—9 years	17	9	—	305	3	—	334
10—14 years	1	—	—	23	1	—	25
15—24 years	—	—	—	5	1	—	6
25 and over	—	1	—	5	3	—	9
Totals	23	30	—	749	10	—	812
1966 Totals	25	35	—	263	31	—	354

Age in years	Acute Pneumonia	Acute Encephalitis	Erysipelas	Food Poisoning	Puerperal Pyrexia	Totals
Under 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14 years	1	—	—	1	—	2
15—44 years	—	—	—	3	—	3
45—64 years	2	—	—	3	—	5
65 and over	—	—	—	1	—	1
Totals	3	—	—	8	—	11
1966 Totals	1	—	1	6	—	8

TUBERCULOSIS

During the year 4 respiratory cases were notified for the first time. The number of cases remaining on the register at the end of the year was the same as at the end of the previous year.

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER, 1967

	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>		<i>Total</i>	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1. Number of Cases on Register at Commencement of year	23	11	4	5	27	16
2. Number of Cases notified for first time during year under Regulations ..	2	2	—	—	2	2
3. Cases restored to Register	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Cases added to Register otherwise than by notification under Regulations:—						
(a) Transferred from other Districts ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) From Death Returns	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Number of Cases removed from Register	3	1	—	—	3	1
6. Number of cases remaining on Register at end of year	22	12	4	5	26	17

AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION

RESPIRATORY AND NON-RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS CASES ON REGISTER 31.12.67

AGE GROUP	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL		GRAND TOTAL
	<i>Resp.</i>	<i>Non-Resp.</i>	<i>Resp.</i>	<i>Non-Resp.</i>	<i>Resp.</i>	<i>Non-Resp.</i>	
0—15	—	—	1	—	1	—	1
16—25	—	2	2	—	2	2	4
26—35	4	—	4	3	8	3	11
36—45	5	—	2	1	7	1	8
46—55	3	1	2	1	5	2	7
56—64	7	1	1	—	8	1	9
65 and over	3	—	—	—	3	—	3
TOTALS	22	4	12	5	34	9	43

National Assistance Act 1948, Section 47

— No action was necessary during the year under this section.

National Assistance Act 1948, Section 50

One burial was effected under the provisions of this section.

REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTOR

R. J. HOYLE, M.R.S.H.,
Public Health Dept.,
65 HILLS ROAD,
CAMBRIDGE.
Telephone 51535

Summary of Visits and Inspections Recorded during the Year:—

TOTAL INSPECTIONS RECORDED	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,209
Complaints Investigated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	269
Housing:										
General Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	492
Re-inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	874
Infectious Diseases:										
General Investigations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	177
Water Supply:										
Inspections and Investigations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	48
Visits re. Water Sampling	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100
Milk and Dairies:										
Inspections of Dairies and Milk Stores	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Milk Distributors	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Food and Drugs Act:										
Inspection of Food	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Meat Inspection by Public Health Inspectors at Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	436
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Catering Establishments	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	81
Ice-Cream premises and Sales Vehicles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Other Food Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	232
Public Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	89
Food Conveying Vehicles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	90
Preserved Food Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Factories Act:										
Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	109
Atmospheric Pollution	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	45
Noise Control	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47
Caravans	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	238
Public Cleansing, including Depot Visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	265
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	655
Swimming Pool Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	62
Sewage Disposal, including surveys for Parish Sewerage Schemes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	675
Petroleum Storage Regulations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	57
Animal Boarding Establishments Act Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	153
Scrap Metal Dealers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Radioactive Substances	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Miscellaneous Visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	614

HOUSING

Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

Houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	1
Houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners	2
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
Houses rendered reasonably fit after informal action	35

Proceedings under Housing Act, 1957:

Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	5
Houses demolished due to formal action:	
(a) By owners	32
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
Houses demolished as a result of informal action	12
Local Authority owned houses demolished after being declared unfit by Medical Officer of Health	Nil
Houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made (Section 17)	3
Undertakings in respect of houses represented as unfit (Section 16):	
(a) Undertakings given by owners to make fit	Nil
(b) Undertakings given by owners not to use for human habitation	11
Buildings in respect of part of which Closing Orders were made (Section 18)	Nil
Houses made fit and Closing Orders or Undertakings cancelled	8
New cases of overcrowding	2
Overcrowding cases abated	2
Unfit dwellings demolished or closed since 1.1.55	515

Housing Progress during the year ending 31.3.68:

Bungalows and Flats erected by the Council	76
Houses erected by the Council	22
Dwellings erected by private enterprise	317
Total number of dwellings erected by the Council since 1945	2,393

The Council's Architect, Engineer & Surveyor reports the following statistics in connexion with improvement grants to private dwellings for the year ending 31st March, 1968:

Number of applications received for Standard Grant	83
Number of applications approved for Standard Grant	72
Number of applications received for Discretionary Grant	12
Number of applications approved for Discretionary Grant	9

The Council's building programme includes for a further group of warden controlled old persons flatlets at Bassingbourn and at Sawston. Similar ground floor flatlets are under construction at Linton. Each group comprises 12 self contained dwellings with a common room and wardens quarters. These units fulfill a distinct need.

In consideration of the under occupation of some Council dwellings, which was referred to in last year's report, 40% of the new dwellings occupied during the year have been by Council tenants who have voluntarily removed from larger premises.

The number of applicants on the housing list total nearly 1,000. The housing list is periodically revised and although there is no restriction on anyone wishing to make application, the allocation of Council dwellings has regard to a points scheme of priority, introduced last year.

Nineteen unfit private dwellings have been made subject to either demolition orders, closing orders or undertakings not to relet. A further 8 dwellings have been modernised and improved to a standard whereby existing closing orders or undertakings have been cancelled.

An inquiry was held in May, by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, into the Sawston Town Plan—a proposal put forward by the Council to redevelop the East side of Sawston High Street into a business and shopping area. To date the views of the Ministry have not been received.

PARTICULARS OF POPULATION AND NUMBERS OF DWELLING HOUSES IN THE RESPECTIVE PARISHES

Parish	Acreage	Population Census 1961	Number of dwellings as at 31/3/68
Great Abington	1,588	593	224
Little Abington	1,309	321	141
Abington Pigotts	1,237	137	46
Arrington	1,407	360	126
Babraham	2,387	344	111
Balsham	4,550	712	377
Barrington	2,282	351	260
Bartlow	422	68	32
Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth	4,083	2,653	766 (184)
Carlton	2,415	138	59
Castle Camps	3,148	535	196
Shudy Camps	2,362	258	90
Great Chishill	2,544	293	114
Little Chishill	1,193	86	30
Croydon	2,734	229	79
Duxford	3,269	1,398	507
Great Eversden	1,400	184	77
Little Eversden	790	295	148
Fowlmere	2,335	591	230
Foxton	1,752	643	299
Gamlingay	3,357	1,622	694
Hatley	2,200	186	59
Heydon	1,633	151	67
Hildersham	1,511	165	71
Hinxton	1,564	282	105
Horseheath	1,922	359	152
Ickleton	2,663	605	214
Kingston	1,907	151	72
Linton	2,947	1,982	863
Litlington	2,172	608	228
Little Gransden	1,920	235	92
Longstowe	1,544	218	69
Melbourn	4,480	1,832	912
Meldreth	2,513	893	379
Guilden Morden	2,599	566	234
Steeple Morden	3,846	630	309
Orwell	2,083	619	264
Pampisford	1,607	295	117
Sawston	1,898	3,377	1,637
Shepreth	1,318	530	197
Shingay-cum-Wendy	1,791	137	41
Tadlow	1,743	89	36
Thriplow	2,501	836	274 (110)
West Wiekham	2,931	333	136
West Wrattling	3,543	404	152
Weston Colville	3,235	348	141
Whaddon	1,515	413	159 (58)
Whittlesford	1,976	1,012	453 (31)
Wimpole	2,468	155	65

Figures in brackets are included in the main figure and represent R.A.F. dwellings.

CARAVANS

Indications are that the demand for caravan sites is declining. Of a total of 111 licensed sites, nearly 70% are for one caravan with the remainder of sites varying between two caravans and six with one site for thirty caravans. There is a tendency for site operators to keep less than three caravans so as not to have to comply with more comprehensive licence conditions attached to licences covering more than three vans.

In no case was it necessary to resort to prosecution to effect compliance with licence conditions.

A meeting was held at officer level between the County Council and Local Authorities comprising the Southern part of the County to consider the import of Circular 22/66 issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, on gypsies. The Minister's view is that the itinerant or gypsy type

of caravan dweller should be encouraged to settle down, improve their living conditions, and send their children to school. After an exchange of information, it was obvious that the problem was more acute in some areas than others.

A survey of itinerant van dwellers is to be undertaken throughout the County by the Welfare Department.

A summary of the work under the Act:—

Number of licensed sites	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	111
Total number of caravans	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	184
Number of site licences renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33
Number of new sites licensed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Number of site licence applications refused Planning permission	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Number of unlicensed sites found	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
Total number of site licence contraventions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
Number of families rehoused by the Council from caravans within the District	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Total number of visits by the public health inspectors to the various sites	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	238

WATER SUPPLIES

Mains water is provided to each parish in the district and distributed by the Cambridge Water Company and the Lea Valley Water Company respectively. The public health department carries out routine sampling for bacterial purity and such samples have been satisfactory.

All public supplies are chlorinated at source, which, in the majority of cases are from the chalk strata. Some water from the lower greensand is distributed in the Western area after the iron content has been removed.

Additional fluoride has not yet been added to the mains water which in this area has a fluoride residual of between 0.1 to 0.15 ppm. The County Council has agreed to this measure as a means of mitigating dental caries, but some practicable and financial problems are yet to be overcome.

The sampling of private water supplies by the public health department usually arises due to complaint concerning the supply, as a matter of routine in factories and workplaces, and where dwellings are being improved. The table shows that eighteen samples were found to be unsatisfactory, several of which were due to foul condition of storage tanks and pipelines. After cleaning out and chlorination of tanks and pipelines no further trouble was experienced. Cleaning out and sterilizing of tanks and pipelines should be standard periodic practice, particularly where the storage heading tanks are not adequately covered.

A formal notice under the Public Health Act was served on the owner of a dwelling to provide a fit supply of water for domestic purposes.

RESULTS OF WATER SUPPLY SAMPLES

Type of Supply	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Public Piped supplies	47	1
Private supplies	18	18
Public Pumps	4	—

SWIMMING POOLS

There are no public swimming pools situated within the rural area and the use of the river Cam and its tributaries for this activity is not encouraged on public health grounds. Not all school children have access to properly supervised pools although fifteen schools in the area have their own swimming pools and these might generally be classified as the learner type of pool. The pools are generally supervised by a teacher who checks the chlorine residual and the general hygienic conditions. This control is supplemented by visits from the public health inspectors who advise and take spot checks of the water for bacteriological assessment. All waters are chlorinated, either by hand, or by pump application and with the exception of three pools, which have bacterial filters, filtration eliminates coarse particles only.

Sixty-two visits have been made to school swimming pools when it was found that chlorine residuals were satisfactory although they tended to fluctuate due to varying numbers of bathers. The pH remained fairly constant however, at between 7.5 and 8.0.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Sewerage schemes currently under construction in the parishes of Steeple Morden, Guilden Morden, Foxton and Shepreth will be followed during 1968 with schemes for Hinxton, Ickleton, Orwell and Barrington.

The stricture on national expenditure has been effective in slowing up the programme of sewerage, nevertheless considerable progress is being made.

The Ministry's investigation into the sewerage of Tadlow parish, was held in May and has resulted in approval to proceed being given. The proposals are for a factory made disposal plant operating on the extended aeration principle whereby continuous streams of air are passed through the sewage thus effecting oxidation. It is in the nature of an experimental plant and maybe the forerunner of a type suited to cope with the sewage flow of the smaller parishes in the district.

At the time of reporting, tenders are being obtained for the Melbourn sewage works extension and tender documents are being prepared for the Hildersham/Abington sewerage scheme.

The public health department is actively engaged in collating statistics on the sanitary circumstances prevailing in the unsewered parishes for presentation to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in support of applications for loan sanctions for sewerage, and 675 visits have been recorded during the year in respect of this. A further 655 visits and inspections have been made in connexion with ditches, drains and cesspools for the detection and abatement of nuisances and in giving advice on drainage matters.

A problem not only exercising the mind of this Council but of very many other local authorities is that of the adequate disposal of sewage sludge. At present much is deposited in a semi-dry condition onto farm land, but the degree of dryness is dependent on the climatic conditions prevailing and quantities are therefore tankered direct from sewage works onto arable land and to refuse pits where it is quickly covered over. Neither of these methods are entirely satisfactory from both a handling and disposal aspect. Consideration is being given to the employment of mechanical means for drying the sludge and thus facilitating disposal. A snap sample of the sludge from the cold digestion tanks at Sawston was tested for manural value which resulted in the following plant nutrients being found:—1.0% nitrogen, 0.8% phosphate; and 0.2% potash.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The collection of domestic refuse remains at the same frequency as it has done for the last few years with fifteen parishes (70% population) having a weekly service and the remaining parishes a fortnightly service. Some parishes have asked for a weekly collection but this is not possible at the present time due to the financial restrictions. Many new comers to the district voice their protest against the kerbside collection. Collection is by means of six rear loading vehicles, the most recent one being of the compression type.

At the time of reporting the vehicles operate from the newly constructed depot at Sawston where the workmen appreciate the improved facilities.

There have been but few changes in the labour force during the year and credit is due to the workmen who have helped to maintain this most essential service in all weathers.

No extension of the use of paper and plastic refuse sacks has been possible although further bungalows in the warden controlled schemes are to be provided with these disposable refuse sacks.

Disposal of refuse is in accordance with the Ministry's requirement for controlled tipping and three tips are at present in use. These disused gravel and chalk pits are becoming fewer and their rate of fill far exceeds the growth of new tipping space. Other methods of disposal designed to reduce the ever increasing bulk of refuse must be soon employed if tipping space is to be conserved. Pulverization or incineration are two worthwhile methods.

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government has formed a working party to consider all aspects of refuse disposal. The Report will be of great interest to all authorities charged with the disposal of refuse.

The Civic Amenities Act 1967 and Regulations made thereunder should do much to reduce the number of abandoned and derelict motor vehicles which are seen in woods and byways in the rural areas and on undeveloped sites in urbanized districts. Apart from imposing heavy penalties on persons abandoning vehicles, it is mandatory on local authorities to remove such vehicles and to provide disposal points for residents of their area wishing to dispose of bulky articles of refuse (non-trade) and unwanted motor vehicles. The public health department has been charged with implementing the Act.

Refuse Collection and disposal figures for the year ending 31.3.68:—

Estimated number of clearances from properties	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	347,000
Number of vehicular loads of refuse	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,505
Estimated tonnage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,257
Total mileage travelled	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	61,718

LITTER BASKETS

Council has installed litter baskets in twenty-six parishes since the inception of the Litter Act 1958, and some few additional parishes have provided their own. The receptacles are emptied at the same time as the village refuse collection is undertaken.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING SERVICE

Three vehicles are now engaged on this work, the most recent vehicle of 1,100 gallons capacity was put into service in August. This four wheel drive tanker is proving its worth particularly where access to small sewage works is difficult and where disposal is, of necessity, onto agricultural land.

As will be seen from the break-down of the year's work, the service given to Council properties exceeds that which can be given to private householders and there is still a delay of some four to five weeks in dealing with private requests.

As a matter of routine sewage sludge is removed from Sawston sewage works where a particular problem exists as already referred to under Drainage and Sewerage.

Where possible, cesspool vehicle contents, are deposited onto arable land but much has to be taken onto the refuse tips where it is immediately covered over.

The charges for the service remain the same as those pertaining when the service was commenced twelve years ago, but now some proportion of the cost is borne by the general rate. The charge to private householders is £1 15s. per first load with subsequent loads at 15s. 0d. each until the septic tank/cesspool is cleared. Business premises are charged at a rate of £2 and £1 a load respectively.

The table following, summarises the year's work to the 31.3.68:—

Private Work		Council Work		Total Mileage
Cesspools	Loads	Cesspools	Loads	
741	958	1,467	2,625	38,581

PEST DESTRUCTION

The work of seeking out rat infested premises and locations has continued although the number of complaints of infested premises was less than for the previous year. A free rat destruction service to householders has resulted in 457 dwellings being serviced.

Routine treatment of sewage works and refuse tips is a necessity as these locations provide ideal sites for rat harbourage.

Modern methods of arable farming appear to leave sufficient residuals of food on the land to support a considerable number of rats and several farmers have been advised on destruction methods.

The routine baiting of public sewers has not been undertaken, but spot baiting is to be carried out to assess the degree of possible infestation. A few business premises have been given a paid service, but as only one rodent operative is employed his first duty is to attend to Council properties and private dwellings.

In addition to work of rat destruction, 43 visits have been made to Council properties to eradicate wasps nests, ants and other insect pests particularly the latter at Council refuse tips.

The table summarises the work of rat destruction to 31/12/67:

Premises Visited	Complaints	Routine	Revisits	Infested	Non-Infested
Business Premises	7	2	25	8	1
Private Dwellings	253	71	756	300	24
Council Dwellings	87	92	350	157	22
Sewage Works	5	181	273	180	6
Refuse Tips	—	28	219	25	3
Miscellaneous locations	9	10	21	15	4
Totals	361 (411)	384 (354)	1,644 (1,495)	685 (711)	60 (54)

CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND FOOD POISONING

One hundred and seventyseven visits or inspections have been undertaken to ascertain the source of infectious disease and to prevent the spread of infection particularly where food poisoning was involved.

Speed of notification and investigation of suspected cases are essential in order to contain outbreaks, particularly those of intestinal origin and in these instances the department works in liaison with the Public Health Laboratory Service to whom numerous specimens, both faecal and of food, have been submitted.

Schools have willingly co-operated in taking additional hygienic precautions against spread of infectious hepatitis and bowel infections in school children.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Action under the Clean Air Act 1956 has been mainly confined to new installations. Nine notices were received advising that furnaces were to be installed. Three applications were also received requesting prior approval of furnace installations and these were referred to the Council's consultants The National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service. Subsequently, two applications were approved and the third one refused due to inadequate insulation of the 70 ft. high chimney stack. All three applications resulted in some discussion with the applicants on the necessity of providing chimneys of sufficient heights.

In November a new Memorandum was received from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government giving guidance on chimney heights and the accompanying circular expressed the belief that it would go a long way towards solving the commonest problems encountered by local authorities in administering Section 10 (whereby chimneys shall be of sufficient height to prevent smoke, grit, etc., from becoming prejudicial to health and a nuisance), and towards promoting a greater readiness to co-operate amongst architects and others concerned with new buildings. The department of Education and Science also commends the Memorandum to local education authorities which are outside the scope of Section 10.

An informal notice was served under Section 16 to abate a nuisance caused by the systematic burning of motor vehicle bodies at a scrap metal dealers yard.

Visits have been made to two manufacturies where nuisance arose from dust and fumes being discharged into the atmosphere. In both cases the firms have been requested to abate the nuisance.

NOISE ABATEMENT

Noise is said to be “ sound which is undesired by the recipient ”. Therefore, people vary in their susceptibility to noise and careful consideration is given by the public health department before any enforcement action is taken.

A total of 45 visits for noise control are recorded. One informal notice was served to abate nuisance caused by corn milling which sometimes continued into the early hours of the day. A further four complaints were investigated including noise arising from industrial plant and also from barking dogs.

RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES ACT 1960

Seven firms are registered by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government to keep and use radioactive isotopes and two of them are permitted to dispose of certain low activity waste. In one case it is permitted to be removed by the local authority along with the ordinary refuse and in the second instance by delivering the waste to a specified refuse tip where the local authority is obliged to cover over the material with at least five foot depth of earth or similar. Four such deposits have been made during the year.

It is perhaps fitting to report that one of the public health inspectors attended a week's course on radiation in relation to public health.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The Act is a measure which brings the working conditions in offices and shops more in line with standards of health and safety enforceable in factories. The inspections recorded under this heading number 153.

Class of Premises	No. on Register at Year's end	No. of Persons Employed
Offices	17	196
Retail Shops	80	231
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	3	33
Catering establishments open to the public, Canteens	19	103
Fuel Storage Depots	4	12
Totals	123	575 Males 271 Females 304

Analysis of Contraventions found:

Section	Number of Contraventions found	Section	Number of Contraventions found
4	Cleanliness 9	15	Eating facilities 1
5	Overcrowding —	16	Floors, passages and stairs .. 11
6	Temperature 12	17	Fencing exposed parts of machinery 3
7	Ventilation 4	18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery .. —
8	Lighting (Natural & Artificial) 4	19	Training of young persons at dangerous machinery .. —
9	Sanitary Conveniences .. 5	23	Prohibition of heavy work .. —
10	Washing Facilities 3	24	First aid and general provisions 4
11	Supply of drinking water .. 1		Other matters 10
12	Clothing accommodation .. 2		
13	Sitting facilities —		
14	Seats (Sedentary Workers) .. —		

Owners or occupiers of premises have been required to attend to the contraventions and the majority of the work has been completed.

Under some circumstances the local authority may grant exemptions from compliance with certain aspects of the Act, but no applications for such have been received.

No accidents occurring on registered premises have been reported.

INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES AND EXAMINATION OF FOOD

The number and type of food premises in the district are as follows:—

Wholesale food warehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Grocery and general	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100
Butchery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Bakery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Sweets and confectionery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Public houses and hotels	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	95
Cafes and restaurants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29
Factories and workplace canteens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Fried and wet fish	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
School meals kitchens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Hospital and Homes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Clubs and Associations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28

Little unfit food has been encountered at retailers and wholesalers premises but in all cases it was voluntarily surrendered for destruction. The food—mainly canned meats—amounted to $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt.

Complaints of foreign bodies found in food have been fewer this year. Two firms were warned after purchasers had found a piece of metal in corn flakes and a metal foil cap in a bottle of milk. Also warned, were two firms for selling milk in dirty bottles and a restaurant occupier for having bread for sale affected with mould, which was caused by storing pre-wrapped loaves in a deep freeze cabinet.

After considering a report by another local authority on an excessive amount of lead being found in fruit drinks, after they had been dispensed through a bottle pourer of particular type and manufacture, it was decided to make a pilot survey of appropriate premises in the district to ascertain if this type of bottle optic was being used. In no case were they found to be used and it is of interest to record that one firm of brewers had already circularised their publicans pointing out the dangers of using this optic for dispensing acidic drinks.

A further addition to the Food Hygiene Codes of Practice was issued by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, on hygiene in the use of coin operated food vending machines. These machines which vend various foods and beverages, both hot and cold, are on the increase. They are covered, however, by the requirements of the various food hygiene regulations.

All food premises conform to the requirements of Sections 16 and 19 of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations relative to the provision of sinks and wash hand basins.

Bakehouses

There are 9 bakehouses, small in character and catering for local needs.

One bakehouse has had substantial improvements carried out including a gas fired oven in lieu of one burning solid fuel. Two other premises have been found to require renewal of equipment, wash hand basin, redecoration and general repair.

In all 23 inspections are recorded.

Restaurant Kitchens, Cafes and Canteens

In general the catering establishments are of a reasonable standard, but in some premises this can only be maintained by frequent inspection.

Eighty-one inspections have been made.

Six informal notices have been sent requiring improvement to premises and equipment, etc.

One cafe has been completely rebuilt and another one substantially improved.

Food Premises Registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Specific types of food premises where food is prepared or sold are required to be registered and the number of registered premises are as follows:—

Storage and sale of ice-cream	124
Manufacture and sale of sausages, brawn and other preserved pickled or potted foods	14
Fish frying premises	4

Retail Shops, Public Houses, and Other Food Premises

Although 322 inspections and revisits to premises are recorded, the need to serve informal notices to effect compliance with the Regulations arose in only 17 cases. The requirements are itemised as follows:—

Wash hand basins required or replaced	13
Sinks required or replaced	7
Sanitary accommodation requiring attention	7
Ventilation improving	4
Lighting improving	4
Working surfaces needing renewal	6
Cleanliness of equipment and machinery	7
Certain foods to be kept at certain temperatures	2
Redecoration	9
Structural repairs	6
First aid equipment	1
Other matters	12

Two public houses were delicensed during the year.

Poultry Processing Establishments

There are two poultry processing establishments in the district which process small numbers of turkeys, ducks, broilers and capons. The premises have been visited periodically and found to be well run.

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in operation in the district.

Food Conveying Vehicles and Market Stalls

The implementation of the Food Hygiene (Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966, which came into force on 1st January 1967 will achieve a considerable improvement in the hygiene of many food conveying vehicles.

Ninety visits and inspections have been made and advice, both verbal, written and in the form of a précis of the Regulations, has been given to vendors.

To some extent the effect of the Regulations appears to be that more food will become pre-wrapped so obviating the necessity for wash hand basins, sinks and water supply being provided on vehicles and stalls.

In nine specific instances, vendors have been advised that non-compliance may lead to formal action being taken.

Milk Supply

The County Council as Food and Drugs Authority is responsible for licensing dealers of designated milk.

Control of milk production on the farm is in the hands of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The District Council has one non-producers dairy on register and four distributors of milk.

Several schools in the district are now supplied with milk in disposable cartons and it is hoped that further schools will adopt this method of supply.

Ice-Cream

There are no manufacturers of ice-cream in the district, and although several mobile shops sell 'soft' ice-cream the majority of ice-cream sold is pre-wrapped.

Eleven samples have been submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, for bacteriological examination. Some results were below the provisional standard desired and on investigation it was apparent that a retailer had failed to maintain a sufficiently low storage temperature.

**TOTALS OF MEAT INSPECTED AND REJECTED AS UNFIT IN THE THREE PRIVATELY OWNED
SLAUGHTERHOUSES FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 1967**

(The figures in brackets are the annual figures for the year 1966)

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	2,405	142	51	4,612	117,468	—
Number inspected	2,405	142	51	4,612	117,468	—
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCU- LOSIS AND CYSTICERCI						
Whole carcasses rejected as unfit ..	—	2	5	5	168	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was rejected as unfit	617	53	1	55	20,826	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci	25.6% (26.0%)	38.6% (38.0%)	11.8% (12.5%)	1.3% (4.0%)	18.0% (12.0%)	—
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY						
Whole carcasses rejected as unfit ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was rejected as unfit	—	—	—	—	1,226	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	— (0.04%)	—	—	—	1.2% (1.0%)	—
CYSTICERCOSIS						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was rejected as unfit	6 (7)	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	6 (7)	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally rejected as unfit	—	—	—	—	—	—
NUMBER OF ORGANS OR PARTS REJECTED AS UNFIT — ALL DISEASES*						
Heads	11	1	—	—	1,346	—
Lungs	79	15	—	11	10,962	—
Hearts	9	—	—	4	3,775	—
Livers (Whole or part)	553	42	—	44	6,149	—
Spleens	3	1	—	—	34	—
Diaphragms	—	—	—	—	2	—
Kidneys	2	3	—	1	1,082	—
Stomachs	2	1	—	—	22	—
Mesenteries	5	3	—	—	4,203	—
Other parts	299 lbs.	—	24 lbs.	57 lbs.	3,294 lbs.	—

* These figures do not include instances where whole carcasses and all organs were rejected as unfit.

Meat Inspection

This is the first completed year in which 100% inspection of all slaughtered animals has been achieved.

At the two smaller slaughterhouses inspection is accomplished by the public health inspectors during normal office hours of a five day week.

Agreement was reached with the management of the largest slaughterhouse whereby slaughtering can take place during certain hours throughout a six day week, excluding Sunday (except with special approval) to a maximum of 43 hours.

Two inspectors have worked with untiring effort at this slaughterhouse and each has worked approximately 335 hours overtime during the year.

The year's kill has risen by 16% over the previous year and totalled 124,678 animals. Fortysix and a half tons of meat and offal were rejected as unsound and were disposed of in an approved manner.

There has been close co-operation with the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, where investigation into sources of animal disease has been warranted.

For the second year running there has been a complete absence of tuberculosis in beef animals which reflects the efforts made by farmers and the Ministry in controlling this disease.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

There are 141 factories on register, 20 of which are of somewhat a temporary nature, being building sites, road works and suchlike. Council's function in relation to these is concerned with adequacy of sanitary accommodation. Council's duties under the Act are also likewise limited in factories using mechanical power but inspections of these premises often require the use of other legislation in connexion with petrol storage, food hygiene, atmospheric pollution and abatement of nuisance.

A survey of factories using private water supplies was undertaken and it was found on sampling that all supplies were bacteriologically satisfactory. Of the ten factories involved, two relied solely on their private supplies and the necessary certificate under Section 57 as to the wholesomeness of supply, was issued.

Factory occupiers are required to furnish the local authority with lists of outworkers employed. From these lists it was ascertained that five factories in the rural district employ outworkers. There are a total of 139 outworkers resident in the district, some of whom are employed by factories situated outside the area. Nearly all are engaged in the making of wearing apparel.

Three factories are registered by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government as Schedule Processes under the Alkali Act and as such are the responsibility of that Inspectorate. The public health department liaises with the alkali inspector particularly where nuisance arises due to atmospheric pollution.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority	10	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	111	88	9	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ..	20	19	3	—
TOTAL	141	109	12	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred		No. of Cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	4	3	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	8	5	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	4	—	—
TOTAL	12	8	4	1	—

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are four manufacturies classified under the above heading. Nuisance has arisen at one of these and a further abatement notice has been served on the management to abate offensive odours arising from the conversion of animal fats and protein into animal foods and fertilizers, etc. A new plant to deal with this nuisance has been constructed and appears to be working satisfactorily.

Although the prevention of atmospheric pollution arising from such manufacturies is by no means simple, it is a defence to prove that the best practicable means have been taken to prevent nuisance.

There are no licensed knackers yards in the district.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT 1958

The Act combines with the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations in prescribing measures designed to achieve the humane slaughtering of cattle, sheep, pigs, goats and horses in slaughterhouses. Slaughtermen are required to be licensed and 17 hold current licences which name the types of food animals which may be slaughtered and the slaughtering instruments permitted. None of the licences permits the slaughtering of horses and horse slaughtering does not take place in any of the licensed slaughterhouses.

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

Two licences, renewable annually, are in force.

The Act governs the welfare of pet animals kept for sale.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

Twenty visits have been made to animal boarding establishments to check on compliance with licence conditions controlling the welfare of dogs and cats in the 8 establishments which are currently licensed.

Initial inspections of the premises were undertaken by a consultant veterinary surgeon.

Premises are well managed and no breach of licence conditions has been reported by the public health inspectors.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT 1964

All dealers resident or having stores in the area are required to be registered and 23 are on the register. Seven of these dealers hold an exemption from keeping certain records of scrap metal transactions due to their being itinerant collectors of metal.

PETROLEUM ACTS AND REGULATIONS

A further 8 new or expanded storage installations have been constructed during the year and the underground tanks and associate pipelines have been pressure tested.

Existing underground tanks and pipelines which have been installed for 20 years or more are required to be tested and such testing is a condition of licence.

It has been decided that the testing of such tanks will be carried out during 1968 by means of nitrogen gas under pressure.

There are 172 installations in the district licensed to store petroleum spirit under the Act. Under certain circumstances petroleum spirit may be stored under the Regulations and without licence when it is intended for use in motor vehicles and motor boats, but subject to the location of storage and quantity, the local authority are required to be notified. Any vessel used for such storage shall be conspicuously marked "Petroleum Spirit—Highly Inflamable".

